Response Under 37 CFR 1.116
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Examining Group 3600
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween, and a gate for closing the gap, the gate being formed of a wire member shaped and located on one free end of the body, such that the gate is constrained to close the gap and another free end of the body having a slot for receiving a shaped end of the gate,

wherein the gate is formed by the wire member that is bent double defining two strands and has each free end further bent inwards towards the other to locate in a different hole on opposite sides of the one free end of the body, one hole being above the other, and

wherein from the one free end of the body, the two strands of the wire member are bent towards each other to approximately a mid-point of the gate until they overlap in a plane of the body.

2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein at a free end the gate is shaped by bending of the wire member to form the shaped end.

5. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 4, wherein the free end of the gate is bent over sideways.

6. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 4, wherein a loop at the free end of the gate is enlarged.

7. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween, and a gate for closing the gap, the gate being formed of a wire member shaped and located on one free end of the body, such that the gate is constrained to close the gap and another free end of the body having a slot for receiving a shaped end of the gate,

wherein the gate is formed by the wire member that is bent double and has each free end further bent inwards towards the other to locate in a different hole on opposite sides of the one free end of the body, one hole being above the other, and

wherein a loop formed where the wire member is bent double has a shaped nut that can locate in the slot of the other free end of the body.

8. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein a shaped nut is slid onto the gate.

9. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween, and a gate for closing the gap, the gate being formed of a wire member shaped and located on one free

end of the body, such that the gate is constrained to close the gap and another free end of the body having a slot for receiving a shaped end of the gate,

wherein the slot has from the other end of the body a first narrow part to accommodate the wire ~~gate~~ member leading to a wider second part to accommodate the shaped end of the gate.

10. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 9, wherein a ledge is provided between the wide and narrow parts of the slot.

11. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween, and a gate for closing the gap, the gate being formed of a wire member shaped and located on one free end of the body, such that the gate is constrained to close the gap and another free end of the body having a slot for receiving a shaped end of the gate,

wherein the slot has from the other end of the body a first narrow part to accommodate the wire member leading to a wider second part to accommodate the shaped end of the gate,

a ledge is provided between the wide and narrow parts of the slot, and the ledge is in a plane substantially normal to a longitudinal axis of the gate.

12. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the gate and the other end of the body carry additional locking means for when the gate is closed.

13. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 12, wherein a thimble is provided on the gate, the thimble can be moved up the gate to overlap at least partially the other end of the body.

14. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 13, wherein an outwardly screw threaded sleeve is provided on the gate and an internally screw threaded thimble is provided on the sleeve.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 12, wherein the gate is provided with a slidable locking member.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 12, having a locking pin that is insertable through the other free end of the body of the karabiner and into or through the end of the gate to prevent it being pushed open.

19.-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slot of the other free end of the body faces inwards towards the body of the karabiner.

22. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slot is on the side of the other free end of the body.

23. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 1, wherein the slot is shaped with a part that interengages with a loop of the wire gate.

24. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween and a spring-biased gate for closing the gap located on one free end of the body and the other free end having a wire cage thereon for receiving the gate,

wherein the gate is formed by a wire that is bent double and from the one free end of the body, two strands of the wire are bent towards each other to approximately a mid-point of the gate until they overlap in a plane of the body.

25. (Previously Presented) A karabiner comprising a generally C-shaped body having free ends curved towards each other and forming a gap therebetween and a spring-biased gate for closing the gap located on one free end of the body and means for locking the gate in a closed position,

wherein the gate is formed by a wire that is bent double and from the one free end of the body, two strands of the wire are bent towards each other to approximately a mid-point of the gate until they overlap in a plane of the body.

26. (Previously Presented) The karabiner claimed in claim 25, wherein the locking means is a slidable locking member.

27. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 26, wherein the locking member is slidable upwards on the gate and has a finger to extend over an opposite side of the body to that of the direction of opening of the gate.

28. (Previously Presented) The karabiner as claimed in claim 25, wherein a locking is provided on a flexible or spring-biased tab attached to the gate, which pin can be inserted through a hole in another end of the karabiner body and into a slot of the gate when closed.